

Application No. 10/667,144
Second Preliminary Amendment dated December 19, 2005

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

In paragraph 0077, 0080, and 0081 please amend as reflected in the following marked-up version of the paragraph:

[0077] The clips of the present invention may be delivered using various apparatus and methods. An exemplary apparatus 500 suitable for delivering a clip of the present invention is shown in FIG. 9. Other suitable apparatus that may be used to deliver a clip of the present invention are disclosed in co-pending U.S. application Ser. No. 10/081,723 / , filed on the same day as the present application and entitled "Apparatus and Methods for Delivering a Closure Device" (attorney docket no. 262/280), which is assigned to the assignee of the present application. The disclosures of this application and any references cited therein are expressly incorporated by reference.

[0080] The apparatus 500 may also include a mechanical locator or obturator 600, such as that disclosed in U.S. application Ser No. 10/081,723 / (attorney docket no. 262/280), incorporated by referenced above, that may be part of an actuator assembly (not shown) that is attachable to the proximal end of the sheath 552. Alternatively, the mechanical locator or obturator 600 may be a separate device that is insertable into the lumen 560, e.g., through the actuator assembly. Generally, the obturator 600 is an elongate member including a distal tip 614 and a distal portion 616. The distal tip 614 may be substantially soft and/or flexible such that the distal tip 614 may substantially atraumatically enter the vessel 590 (not shown, see FIGS. 10A-10D). The distal portion 616 generally includes one or more wings or other expandable elements 618 for providing tactile feedback, as described further below.

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[0081] The carrier assembly 554 is slidably disposed on an exterior of the sheath 552, and is configured for releasably carrying a clip 110 (shown in phantom), which may any of the clips described herein. The carrier assembly 554 may be substantially permanently attached to the sheath 552 and/or may be actuated from the proximal end 562 of the sheath 552, for example, by the actuator assembly (not shown), to advance the clip 110 distally during deployment. Alternatively, the clip 110 may be carried by an actuator assembly, as disclosed in co-pending U.S. application Ser. No. 10/081,725, filed on the same day as the present application and entitled "Sheath Apparatus and Methods for Delivering a Closure Device," which is assigned to the assignee of the present application (attorney docket no. 267/117). The disclosures of this application and any references cited therein are expressly incorporated herein by reference.